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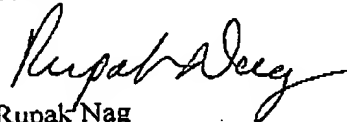
REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1-20, 29-34, and 36-47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. section 102(b) as being anticipated by the DOCSIS Specification (the "RFI" reference). Claims 1, 15, 29, 34, 36, 37, and 47 have been amended.

Claims 1, 29, 36 and 37 have been amended to recite that the CMTS operates in the primary hub of the cable TV plant, shown in Figures 1 and 2 as primary hub 102. The claims have also been amended to recite that the provisioning system is located in the network management station 132. Claims 15, 34 and 47 have been similarly amended to recite that the CMTS is located in the primary hub and that the provisioning system is located in the network management station. As shown in Figures 1 and 2, primary hub 102 is separate from the network management system 132.

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
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